

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 07342 112129Z

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4421

AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

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EXDIS

LONDON FOR SECRETARY VANCE

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK, SF, ZA, CA

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: CANADIAN RESPONSE TO US-UK DEMARCHE

REF: A. OTTAWA 7253, B. STATE 187016

1. IN RESPONSE TO DEMARCH MADE BY AMBASSADOR AND BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER AUGUST 9 (REF A), CARTER, DIRECTOR, ANGLOPHONE AFRICAN AFFAIRS DIVISION, MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (EXTAFF) GAVE EMBASSY OFFICER AND BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION COLLEAGUE FOLLOWING TEXT.

2. BEGIN TEXT. REPLY BY CANADIAN GOVERNMENT : TO BRITISH/ USA GOVERNMENTS : CONCERNING THE NEW RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS.

WE APPRECIATE HAVING BEEN CONSULTED BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES ON THE PROPOSALS THEY INTEND TO PUT FORWARD WITH REGARD TO RHODESIA AND CONFIDENTIAL

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BEFORE THESE PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN PUT TO THE MAIN PARTIES CONCERNED. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUEST MADE TO US, WE HAVE HAD A PRELIMINARY LOOK AT WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED. WE SUPPORT THE GENERAL THRUST OF THE PROPOSALS, TAKEN TOGETHER, WHICH ARE FULLY IN LINE WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF CANADIAN POLICY. WE ATTACH PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF MAJORITY RULE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA BY PEACE-

FUL METHODS. OUR POSITION ON INDIVIDUAL ELEMENTS OF THE PROPOSALS, OF COURSE, WILL DEPEND ON FURTHER STUDY OF THEM ON THE BASIS OF THE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION THAT WE ARE TO BE GIVEN, AND ON THE SUCCESS OF THE EFFORTS WHICH ARE GOING TO BE MADE TO CONVINCE THE PRINCIPAL PARTIES TO COOPERATE. AS REGARDS THOSE ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSALS WHICH MAY IN DUE COURSE INVOLVE THE SECURITY COUNCIL MUCH WILL DEPEND ON THE NATURE OF THE MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL AND ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH THEY ARE PRESENTED. AS TO THE ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND, OUR POSITION REMAINS ONE OF SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE FOR THIS PROJECT, RECOGNIZING THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF UNRESOLVED POINTS SUCH AS THOSE MENTIONED IN MR. JAMIESON'S LETTER OF JANUARY 8, 1977. WE WISH THE BRITISH AND USA GOVERNMENTS SUCCESS IN THEIR JOINT PEACE INITIATIVE. END TEXT.

3. COMMENT: CARTER STATED THAT TEXT OF GOC RESPONSE HAD BEEN CLEARED WITH ACTING PM MACEACHEN AND MIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS JAMIESON.

4. IN HANDING OVER REPLY, CARTER EMPHASIZED THAT GOC RESPONDING AS MEMBER OF SECURITY COUNCIL AND NOT AS INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY WHICH NECESSARILY EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE TO POSSIBLE UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE. IN LATTER REGARD, HE SAID, "WE WILL CROSS THAT BRIDGE WHEN WE COME TO IT" AND INFERENCE CLEAR FROM HIS TONE THAT THIS COULD PRESENT

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PROBLEMS FOR GOC.

5. CARTER STRESSED THAT OPERATIVE SENTENCES IN CANADIAN RESPONSE ARE THREE AND FOUR. HE ADDED THE OBVIOUS IN POINTING OUT THAT REPLY REFERS TO NUMBER OF QUESTIONS TO WHICH ANSWERS WILL BE NECESSARY IN DUE COURSE.

6. UNLESS AUGUST 12 MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY, DR. OWEN, AND FM BOTHA ENDS WITH "TOTALLY NEGATIVE" RESULTS, CARTER SAID CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION IN PRETORIA WILL BE INSTRUCTED BY EXTAFF TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS TO SAG ALONG LINES OF TEXT ABOVE. CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON WILL, HE ADDED, BE IN TOUCH WITH BRITISH AND U.S. COUNTER-PARTS FOR PRELIMINARY REPORT ON MEETING AND FOR ADVICE ON BEST TIME DURING WEEK OF AUGUST 14 TO MAKE APPROACH TO SAG. ENDERS

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